

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) A lifting surface (3) comprising:

at least one flap (1) able to turn about a longitudinal axis of rotation (4), said flap (1) having a profile (6) extending along a chord (CO) and comprising a first leading edge (7), a first trailing edge (8), and inner surface (9) and an outer surface (10); and

a second leading edge (16) and a second trailing edge (2);

said flap (1) being arranged to rotate at said second trailing edge (2) while leaving a clearance (13) between said second trailing edge (2) and said first leading edge (7) of said flap (1), wherein

- said inner surface (9) and said outer surface (10) have, beyond 25% of the flap (1) chord CO, shapes that are not concave;

- said first trailing edge (8) has a main angle ( $\alpha$ ) included between  $10^\circ$  and  $30^\circ$ ;

- said axis of rotation (4) is situated at a first distance (C1) from said first leading edge (7), which is included between 15% and 35% of the chord (CO) of said flap (1); and

- said clearance (13) is between 1.5% and 3.5% of said chord (CO) of said flap (1).

2. (withdrawn, currently amended) A lifting surface according to [[the]] claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said first leading edge (7) has a rounded shape ~~provided with a more~~ or less a substantially constant curve radius (R).

3. (currently amended) A lifting surface according to [[the]] claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said first leading edge (7) has an elliptical shape whose first major axis to minor axis quotient is not less than 1.5.

4. (withdrawn, currently amended) A lifting surface according to [[any]] claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said inner surface (9) has a ~~more or less~~ substantially linear shape.

5. (currently amended) A lifting surface according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said inner surface (9) has a ~~more or less~~ substantially convex shape.

6. (withdrawn, currently amended) A lifting surface according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said outer surface (10) has a ~~more or less~~ substantially linear shape.

7. (currently amended) A lifting surface according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said outer surface (10) has a ~~more or less~~ substantially convex shape.

8. (currently amended) A lifting surface according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said main angle ( $\alpha$ ) is approximately 20°.

9. (currently amended) A lifting surface according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said first trailing edge (8) has an elliptical shape whose second major axis to minor axis quotient is greater than or equal to 1.5.

10. (currently amended) A lifting surface according to [[the]] claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said second major axis to minor axis quotient is approximately equal to 2.

11. (currently amended) A lifting surface according to claim 1, wherein the first distance is ~~more or less~~ approximately 25.5% of the chord (CO).

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) A lifting surface according to [[the]] claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said clearance (13) corresponds to approximately 2% of said chord (CO) of said flap (1).

14. (currently amended) A lifting surface according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said clearance (13) is included between 0.4% and 0.8% of a total length (L) separating said second leading edge (16) from said first trailing edge (8).

15. (currently amended) A lifting surface according to [[the]] claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said clearance (13) corresponds to approximately 0.5% of said total length (L).

16. (previously presented) A lifting surface according to claim 1, wherein said first leading edge (7) is partially overlapped by said second trailing edge (2).

17. (currently amended) A lifting surface according to [[the]] claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said partial overlap (P) is less than 10% of said chord (CO) of flap (1).

18. (previously presented) A lifting surface according to claim 1, further comprising at least one longitudinally extended filling means (14) for sealing off said clearance (13).

19. (currently amended) A lifting surface according to [[the]] claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said filling means (14) is located in a reference surface (11) of the lifting surface (3).

20. (previously presented) A lifting surface according to claim 1, comprising a multitude of said flaps (1), wherein a span of each of said flaps (1) is less than or equal to 15% of a span of said lifting surface.

21. (currently amended) A lifting surface according to [[the]] claim 20, wherein the span of each of said flaps (1) is included between 7% and 10% of said span of said lifting surface (3).